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DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

WE, Wilhelmus Maria VAN DER KRIEKEN and Gerrit SMIT, are both citizens of The Netherlands and residents of the City of Wageningen, the Country of The Netherlands; and the City of Ede, the Country of The Netherlands, whose post-office addresses are Laanije van Ploek 2, NL-6708 RE Wageningen, The Netherlands; and Lichtenbeek 11, NL-6715 IM Ede, The Netherlands, respectively.

We believe ourselves to be the original, first and joint inventors of the improvement in "Influencing the Activity of Plant Growth Regulators" described and claimed in the patent application that was filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on February 28, 2002 and bears Serial No. 10/087,024.

That this application in part discloses and claims subject matter disclosed in our earlier pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/717,872, filed November 21, 2000, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/981,110, filed March 13, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,242,381, issued June 15, 2001.

That, as to the subject matter of this application which is common to said earlier application, we do not know and do not believe that the same was ever known or used in the United States before our invention thereof, or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before our invention thereof or more than one year prior to said earlier application, or in public use or on sale in the United States more than one year prior to said earlier application.

That said common subject matter has not been patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate before the date of said earlier application in any country foreign to the United States on an application filed by us or our legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months prior to said earlier application.

That the first filed application for patent or inventor's certificate on said invention set forth in said earlier application filed by us or our legal representatives or assigns in any country foreign to the United States is: PCT/EP96/02789, filed June 24, 1996; European Patent Office (EPO) Application No. 95201686.3, filed June 22, 1995; and the Netherlands Application No. 1001620, filed November 9, 1995.

As to the subject matter of this application which is not common to said earlier application, we do not know and do not believe that the same was ever known or used in the United States before our invention thereof; or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before our invention thereof or more than one year prior to the date of this application, or in public use or on sale in the United States more than one year prior to the date of this application.

That said subject matter of this application which is not common to said earlier application has not been patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate in any country foreign to the United States on an application filed by us or legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months prior to the date of this application.

That the first filed application for patent or inventor's certificate on said invention set forth in this application filed by us or our representatives or assigns in any country foreign to the United States is: PCT/EP96/02789, filed June 24, 1996; European Patent Office (EPO) Application No. 95201686.3, filed June 22, 1995; and the Netherlands Application No. 1001620, filed November 9, 1995.

We acknowledge our duty to disclose information of which we are aware which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a) including matters as occurred between the filing date of our said earlier application and the filing date of this application.

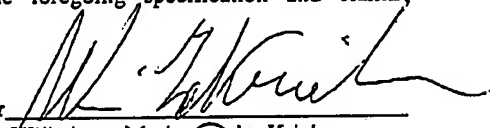
We declare further that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

We hereby appoint Barbara E. Johnson, Registration No. 31,198; William H. Logsdon, Registration No. 22,132; Russell D. Orkin, Registration No. 25,363; David C. Hanson, Registration No. 23,024; Richard L. Byrne, Registration No. 28,498; Frederick B. Ziesenheim, Registration No. 19,438; Kent E. Baldauf, Sr., Registration No. 25,826; Paul M. Reznick, Registration No. 33,059; John W. McIlvaine, Registration No. 34,219; Blynn L. Shideler, Registration No. 35,034; Julie W. Meder, Registration No. 36,216; Lester N. Fortney, Registration No. 38,141; Randall A. Notzen, Registration No. 36,882; James G. Porcelli, Registration No. 33,757; Kent E. Baldauf, Jr., Registration No. 36,082; Christian E. Schuster, Registration No. 43,908; Dean E. Geibel, Registration No. 42,570; Thomas J. Clinton, Registration No. 40,561; Nathan J. Prepelka, Registration No. 43,016; Jessica M. Schroth, Registration No. 47,102; Kirk M. Miles, Registration No. 37,891; J. Matthew Pritchard IV, Registration No. 46,228; Gary F. Matz, Registration No. 45,504; Darrell E. Williams, Registration No. 45,222; and Alka A. Patel, Registration No. 49,092, whose post-office address is 700 Koppers Building, 436 Seventh Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219-1818, Telephone No. 412-417-8815, Facsimile No. 412-417-4094, E-mail: webblaw@webblaw.com, as our attorneys with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, to amend the specification, to appeal in case of rejection, as they may deem advisable, to receive the patent when granted and generally to do all matters and things needful in the premises, as fully and to all intents and purposes as we could do.

All correspondence and telephone calls should be addressed to Barbara E. Johnson.

We hereby subscribe our names to the foregoing specification and claims, Declaration and Power of Attorney.

Date: July 3, 2002

Inventor 
Wilhelmus Maria van der Krieken

Date: July 1, 2002

Inventor 
Geni Shuit